



Article II: The Executive Branch

Introduction

Article II

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully _____ the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, _____, _____ the Constitution of the United States."

Article II Section I

The oath of office puts our president in the position of _____. As chief executive he serves as _____. The power is derived from the office of the presidency. This is just one of many roles the president plays.

Article II: Chief Roles

Chief of _____: The ceremonial role of the president. In other nations, kings or emperors are seen as figureheads and not actual rulers. In America, our president portrays this role among many that contain more active governing duties.

Chief _____: Holding the most powerful office in the world, the president is the head of his branch and nation. Any broad use of this power is an example of this powerful role.

Chief _____: As the head of his branch, he is the "boss" to an administration of 2.7 million people. As the head seat at the conference table, he must ensure the branch functions smoothly. (This role is a more hands-on position than Chief Executive)

Chief _____: Our president (with advisers) makes our foreign policy. He and his administration sets the tone for how the United States interacts with the rest of the world.

_____ In Chief: The presidential powers over our military have significantly grown over time. The president does not declare war, but still retains immense power over the armed services. He is the highest rank among all services.

Chief _____: As chief legislator, the president suggests legislation to Congress, who initiates the process. He also serves a role in that process in holding the powerful veto. In addition, the president can practically create law through executive orders.

Chief of _____: As an elected official, the president is by nature a politician. As member of his respective party that has ascended to the presidency makes him the chief of that party. Often times, the president will be asked to represent the party or members when needed.

Chief _____: The president must represent all citizens. This is done in governing by promoting the diverse needs of Americans, and in leisure by relating to our lives and interests.



Qualifications

Formal Qualifications

_____: Natural born: American citizenship by soil/blood. No president has ever been born abroad.

_____: 35 yrs old

_____: Within the US for 14 years. (Within their lifetime)

Informal Qualifications

Over time, Americans have expressed a clear bias for certain characteristics in their president. Preferences of the people include:

What does this say about the election of 2008? _____

Term of Office

_____ Amendment sets the reelection limit. No president can serve more than _____ terms and total no more than _____ years.

Pay & Benefits

As of January 20, 2001 the taxed income of the President became \$_____. In addition, the president receives a \$_____ expense account.

Other benefits of the presidency include:

Lodging: 137-room _____ fully staffed and equipped with sports and entertainment.

_____: limos, Air Force One, Marine One, yacht...

Protection: _____ (including family)

Much more...



Vice President & Succession

Presidential Succession

25th Amendment

Section 1.

In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the Vice President shall become President.

After the Vice President's position, the succession order is detailed by the _____ of 1947.

Vice President

Beyond taking the role of President in a situation of disability, the vice president is the "_____".

VP (with majority of Cabinet) can inform Congress of the President's disability, if the President doesn't do this himself.

The only other role the VP has is to _____. (has tie-breaker vote)

The VP also helps to "_____" or improve the viability of the Presidential candidate.

Presidential Amendments

_____: _____ from March to January

_____: Limits the presidency to _____

_____: details disability and names VP _____

Election of the President

_____: Changes how winner is determined through votes

_____: Gives Washington D.C. electors (and a voice)



The Framers' Plan

- Most framers disliked the popular vote and thought America was too vast for voters to be well educated about candidates.
- _____: body composed of electors from each state that would cast TWO votes for choosing a president. These "elite" would act as "free agents" and ensure the uneducated lay folk would not choose the "wrong" president.
- What potential tensions could exist within the President and Vice President?

By the election of 1800, _____ were born.

_____ (Dem-Rep) v. _____ (Federalists)

The electors from each state were loyal party candidates, thus voted identically... causing a tie.

By 1804, the 12th Amendment will establish _____ for the President and Vice President. Giving electors one vote each.

How does this change the game for electors?

The Electoral College Today

- The Constitution requires that the Electoral College chooses the President, so they still exist and carry out the act.
- The "judgement" of the electors has been removed.
- Electors are instead, a "_____ " for their party's candidate.
- Whoever wins the state (by popular vote) gets the _____ from that party.
- The biggest controversy with the electoral college today is the _____ characteristic.
- If a candidate loses a state by a close margin, millions of popular votes received equate to 0 electoral votes toward the goal of _____.
- Winning big in smaller electoral vote-carrying states, and losing narrowly in states with many electoral votes can result in the election's loser attaining more popular votes.



Road to the White House

Party organization at the national level determines when and where the Party Convention will be.

- Major cities are often the venues.

National party organizers also set the number of delegates that will attend the _____ and apportion them by state electoral votes.

2004: Republicans=2509, Democrats=4353

Now a formality, delegates once chose candidates at the National Convention.

How do candidates get delegates?

Presidential _____

The "race before the race" is an early election that:

- _____
- _____

- The primary system is scheduled by the _____ structure.

Primary date is important to choice-why? _____

What purpose do primaries serve (beyond delegate-choosing/preference pick)?

- Filter the _____
- States are responsible for setting up primary regulations.
- Pennsylvania currently holds a _____ primary.

Dem-Dem, Rep-Rep, Ind/No pref- sorry.